

REMARKS

The rejections and comments of the Examiner set forth in the Office Action dated July 30, 2003 have been carefully reviewed by the Applicants. Claims 1-35 are pending in the application. Claims 1-35 are currently rejected.

Claims 1, 3, 5-9, 11-24, 26, 27 and 29-35 are currently rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Seager (US 5235561). With respect to Claim 1 and dependent Claims 2-16, Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the relationship between the claimed elements of a display/processor module comprising a display and a keypad slider comprising a keypad. As claimed, the keypad sliders and display/processor module are three distinct elements that are slidably coupled. This is supported throughout the specification. In contrast, Seager teaches two sliding elements wherein one of the two sliding elements has both a display and a keypad. Thus, Seager fails to anticipate the invention as claimed in Claims 1-16.

Claim 17 has been amended to patentably distinguish the claimed invention over Seager by incorporating the limitations of Claim 18 and Claim 22. Claims 18 and 22 have been canceled. Seager fails to teach or suggest sliders with a keypad on the front side and microphone or speaker on the backside as claimed in amended Claim 17.

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Claim 19 has been rewritten in independent form and includes the limitations of the original claim 17. Claim 19 retains the pre-existing limitation of a line selection driver that is not anticipated by Seager.

Claim 20 depends from amended Claim 17 and thus is not anticipated by Seager.

Claim 21 has been rewritten in independent form and includes the limitations of the original claim 17. Claim 21 retains the pre-existing limitation of a voice recognition processor that is not anticipated by Seager.

With respect to Claims 23-35, the Applicants assert that independent Claim 23 is not anticipated by Seager since the data processing unit of Seager is not protected by a sliding cover of any kind. The data processing unit as claimed in Claims 23-35 comprises a display and covers for protecting a display, whereas the only element of Seager that has a display does not have a cover for the display.

Claims 2, 10, and 28 are currently rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seager (US 5235561) in view of Gray (US 5440629). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection on the grounds that Gray teaches away from the proposed combination and Gray and Seager lack a motivation to combine in the manner suggested.

Gray teaches away from a slider comprising a keyboard at col. 1, lines 7-14, wherein Gray teaches that the controls (normally a keyboard) are to be protected by a

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slidably movable end closure. This teaching is reinforced at col. 2, lines 59-69, wherein one or more slidable end closures are described as providing a protective enclosure for a keypad. Gray teaches away from a keypad slider, and there is nothing in Gray that suggests the need for protecting the display of Seager. As for the teaching of Seager, the device of Seager is akin to a wristwatch, and wristwatches typically lack protective covers. Gray does not teach a keypad slider comprising a keypad, and teaches against the use of a keypad as protection for another device.

With respect to a voice recognition capability, one with normal skill in the art would not be motivated to attempt to combine Gray and Seager due to the severe technical challenge of providing the necessary processing power and memory for voice recognition in a wrist worn device that already includes a display driver, audio amplifier and radio transceiver. To make the device of Seager large enough to accommodate a useful voice recognition capability would render it unsuitable for its wearing on the wrist and thus render it unsuitable for its intended function. It should be noted that the abstract of Gray describes the size of the extended wireless telephone as having the normal configuration of the earpiece or mouthpiece of a conventional telephone handset, which is significantly larger than a wristwatch.

In summary, Applicants assert that Claims 1-17, 19-21, and 23-35 are in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit such action by the Examiner.

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Respectfully submitted,

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO

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Mehlin Dean Matthews
Registration Number: 46,127

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO
Two North Market Street
Third Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

408-938-9060

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